(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) During the year 1987-88, the resources available to the Government of Orissa under the National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) amounted to Rs. 50.10 crores and Rs. 56.88 crores respectively, inclusive of the State's share under NREP and carry-over from the previous years. Out of this, Rs. 9.56 crores under NREP become available to the Programme only in the last quarter of the year. For computation puposes, this has, therefore, to be ignored. It will leave a balance of Rs. 40.54 crores, under NREP. Against that, the reported utilisation is 37.19 crores, which is 91.73 per cent of available resources. Under RLEGP, a sum of Rs. 16.14 crores was made available to the State against earmarked projects for handicapped areas of Orissa in February/March, 1988. If this sum is taken out of the total available funds, it leaves a balance of Rs. 40.74 crores. The utilisation reported so far is Rs. 35.78 crores, which is 87.82 per cent of available resources. NREP/RLEGP guidelines permit 25 per cent funds to be carried forward from year to year. Judging by these standards, the performance of the Orissa Government is satisfactory.

Processing of food from seaweed

319. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any Food Processing Industries in the country which process food from seaweed; and

(b) steps taken so far by Government to encourage seaweed cultivation and prepare various types of dishes from seaweed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Violation of service rules in beedi factories

320. SHRI YALLA SESI SHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the many beedi manufacturers have violated the rules regarding working conditions and service facilities in the factories;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the beedi workers are not being paid fixed wages;

(c) if so, what steps have been taken to prevent such under-payment of wages;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the women workers in beedi manufacturing units are denied facilities like leave, Provident Fund and employees' insurance etc; and

(e) if so, what checks have been prescribed to ensure that women workers get their rights?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) to (c) The appropriate Government for enforcing the provisions of the Beedi & Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 are the State Governments and all complaints regarding non-payment of minimum wages, or non-fulfilment of the working conditions etc. are dealt by the State Governments concerned. Any complaint received against beedi manufacturers violating the rules regarding the working and service conditions of beedi workers are forwarded to the appropriate State Government for necessary action.

(d) and (e) The Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Pro-